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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

DATE: May 27, 1953

SUBJECT: Demarche on Greek views re Albania.

PARTICIPANTS: Greek Ambassador, Athanase G. Politis

NEA - Mr. Jernegan

GTI - Mr. Richards

EE - Mr. Recknagel

COPIES TO: EE - Mr. Leverich
EE/Balkan Files (2)

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EXEMPTIONS *la(1)*

Mr. Politis, the Greek Ambassador in Washington, called at the Department today at his own request to deliver a memorandum (a copy of which is attached) setting forth the views of the Greek Government in regard to the future situation of Albania. The Ambassador stated that there was no particular significance to the timing of the delivery of this memorandum, other than that the Greek Government wished to go on record officially with its views on this subject so that they would be known and considered in connection with any possible talks between the big powers concerning the future of Albania.

The Ambassador stated the Greek position as follows:

- (a) Greece looks to the establishment of a free and democratic Albania.
- (b) Greece believes that such future Government should be one which will give full and fair consideration to the problem of the Greek minority in Northern Epirus.

(c) Greece does

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- (c) Greece does not relinquish its demands for territorial adjustment in the Northern Epirus, but reasserts its position that it will never seek to settle this dispute by other than peaceful means. ↑
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It was agreed that no publicity would be given by either the Greek Embassy, the Greek Government, or the Department of State to the presentation of the Greek note. ↓

B' -

In response to a question concerning the recent statements appearing in the Turkish press attributed to Mr. Papagos to the effect that Greece would seek a tripartite (Turkish, Greek, Yugoslav) declaration inviting Albania's membership in the tripartite accord, and should Hoxha fail to accept this agreement, recognition would be given to the Albanian Refugee Committee in Yugoslavia as an Albanian Government in exile, the Ambassador stated that there was no substance to this report and that an official denial had been issued in the Greek press. He stated that he would make a copy of this denial available to the Department.

Attachments:

1. Copy of Greek memorandum to the Department.

EUR:EE:TH ecknagel:bab

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Page No(s). remainder of document, 3 pages
have been withheld in their entirety.

Exemption(s) invoked: B1

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